Local Government  
  
1. Property appraisals in all local governments are done by which of the following?   
a. County clerks   
b. Tax-assessor collectors   
c. Countywide appraisal authority   
d. County auditors   
  
2. Home-rule municipalities can set property tax rates as high as   
a. $2.00 per $100 of assessed value.   
b. $2.50 per $100 of assessed value.   
c. $3.50 per $100 of assessed value.   
d. $1.50 per $100 of assessed value.   
  
3. Which of the following is not considered a city user fee?   
a. Electricity rates   
b. Garbage collection fees   
c. Ad valorem   
d. Ambulance service fees   
  
4. Local governments use public debt (normally bond issues that must be approved by the voters in a referendum) to fund which of the following?   
a. City services   
b. Public assistance   
c. Roads, buildings, and public facilities   
d. Health care   
  
5. Texas cities can keep from being boxed in by suburban “bedroom” cities using their power of   
a. eminent domain.   
b. extraterritorial jurisdiction.   
c. injunction.   
d. mandate.   
  
6. All of the following statements about county government are true except   
a. Texas has 254 counties.   
b. county government is far less flexible than municipal government in its organization and functions.   
c. Texas counties, like cities, have home-rule provisions.   
d. counties cannot pass ordinances unless specifically authorized by the state.   
  
7. The commissioners court acts as a legislature   
a. with limited authority to approve the budget for all county operations.   
b. to set the tax rate.   
c. to pass ordinances on a narrow range of policies.   
d. all of the above   
  
8. Which of the following is not a power of a county judge?   
a. Performing marriage ceremonies   
b. Serving as the head of civil defense   
c. Exercising judicial authority over felony cases   
d. Conducting hearings for beer and wine permits   
  
9. The county sheriff has all of the following functions except   
a. law enforcement in the county.   
b. hiring deputies.   
c. operating the city jail.   
d. delivering and executing court papers.   
  
10. Which is not a reason why reformers recommend a short ballot with fewer elected county officials?   
a. They argue it would simplify structure with a single-county executive, which would allow voter to hold one high-profile officer accountable.   
b. They contend that a chief county executive could coordinate county programs.   
c. They would be able to engage in long-range planning and eliminate duplication among various county offices.   
d. They fear that concentrating too much power in a single chief executive invites abuse and threatens personal liberty. 